

## FRENCH INDQ-CHINA

Council, and the registration of all contracts between the king and Europeans, What might have been an effective opening wedge remained a dead letter until the establishment of the civil government *m* Cochin-China.

The reorganization effected by Le Myre de Vilers and his successors was the first application in Cambodia of the Protectorate's hitherto purely theoretical powers of thirteen years' standing. French judicial control was increased at the expense of the Cambodian courts; measures were taken to suppress brigandage; fifty-seven provinces were compressed into eight, each headed by a French resident; Khmer functionaries\* salaries were increased with the vain hope that this might cure their congenital venality.

Feeling that Le Myre had only made a beginning, Governor Thomson of Cochin-China chose an unfortunately violent way of dictating t new treaty. In the night of June 17th, he forced his way into the palace\* awoke the sleeping king, and wrung from him a consent to important reforms which gave France control over the internal affairs of the country. This clumsily forced a delicate issue just at a time when Thomson was having his troubles with Annam. The heart of the difficulty> as always, was financial. King and people alike resented the French assessment and collection of tazes as derogatory to Norodom's sovereignty. The populace had already been upset by minor regulation their liberties, by the imposition of new taxes, and by giving priority to Annainites in the country. The movement, led by Prince Sivotha, in January 1885 by an attack on the newly installed

lasted, for eighteen months, inflicting serious losses o& die in both men and prestige. The territory over

which their  
 was a            the size of France. The country was  
 largely  
 at die time,            were almost non-existent, as also  
 were  
 daring the rainy season and through  
 Lack of rater, food\* and all kinds of supplies made  
 the  
 of            heavy. Moreover, the Cambodian  
 revolt stirred  
 up «            in CbcuiirOufUL The military  
 campaign was  
                  by            compromises on the part d  
 the new            Fffippfiil He did not revise the treaty  
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 it in            native            in contact with the  
                  m 1897, it TO\* at the request Of Norodom  
                  himself, wk  
                  measures proposed or  
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